



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

By: Shogo MURAMATSU et al

Serial Number: 09/423,981

Filed: February 18, 200

For: ALUMINUM-ALLOY BASED SLIDING MATERIAL

Group Art Unit: 1775

Examiner: J. Savage

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: October 9, 2001

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 9, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A flame-sprayed aluminum-alloy particularly suited as sliding material, containing from 12 to 60% by weight of Si, the balance being essentially Al, the aluminum-alloy flame-sprayed by means of high velocity oxy-fuel flame-spraying method (HVOF) onto a substrate roughened by shot blasting, and includes granular Si particles dispersed in the matrix of the aluminum alloy, and further said flame-sprayed aluminum alloy has adhesive strength of film higher than that of a flame-sprayed Ni film, as measured by a shear-fracture testing method.

2. (Amended) A flame-sprayed aluminum-alloy containing from 12 to 60% by weight of Si, from 0.1 to 30% by weight of Sn, the balance being essentially Al, the aluminum-alloy